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Subject: Flint Readout 08/15/16

End of the Federal State of Emergency

Emergency declaration ends in Flint water crisis, but work to fix system continues

AP for New York Daily News 08/15/16 7:26 AM

A federal emergency declaration over Flint's lead-tainted water crisis ended Sunday, but state officials said work continues to fix the drinking water system and provide services to city residents. The end to the declaration means the state now bears the full cost of bottled water, filters and other water supplies. Federal resources, health programs and monitoring efforts will continue.

As Flint Runs Out Of Federal Money, There's Still Work Left To Do

By WBUR 90.9 08/15/16 [radio clip]

A federal emergency declaration over Flint's lead-tainted water ended Sunday. But there is still work to be done to fix the problem. The state must now bear the full cost of providing water bottles, filters and other supplies to residents. Here & Now's Robin Young speaks with Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, who helped raise awareness of the water crisis, about how Flint residents are feeling.

Federal Emergency Declaration Over Flint Water Coming to an End

By Jesi Munguia, 9 & 10 News 08/15/16 1:20 AM

A federal emergency declaration over Flint's water crisis is ending. The declaration ends Monday, meaning the state now bears the full cost of bottled water, filters and other water supplies. President Obama signed the emergency declaration in January after tests showed elevated lead levels in the blood of some children. Federal resources, health programs and monitoring efforts will continue.

Flint water crisis nearing end but work remains

By Bill Hormann, ABC 13 08/14/16 2:16 PM

A federal emergency declaration over Flint's lead-tainted water crisis is ending, but officials say work will continue to fix the drinking water system and provide services to city residents. The declaration ends Sunday, after which the state will bear the full cost of bottled water, filters and other water supplies. Federal resources, health programs and monitoring efforts also will continue.

Federal state of emergency ends in Flint as researchers say water crisis in recovery

By Michael D. Regan, PBS Newshour 08/14/16 2:08 PM

A federal state of emergency imposed this year after residents of Flint, Michigan, were exposed to widespread lead contamination in their water supply ended on Sunday, leaving some of the financial repercussions from the health emergency in the hands of state officials. The end of the declaration comes after researchers at Virginia Tech on Thursday noted that the city's water quality had improved, referencing testing conducted in 162 randomly selected homes in Flint since August 2015, according to the Associated Press.

Federal state of emergency in Flint expires, free bottled water available

By Allen Cone, UPI 08/14/16 1:46 PM

The federal state of emergency in Flint, Mich. expired Sunday, but city officials are assuring residents free bottled water is available. The residents of the 100,000-population city north of Detroit have been avoiding tap water because of the lead water crisis. "August 14 is just a date on the calendar, and as Governor [Rick] Snyder has said, we will make decisions based on science, not arbitrary dates," said Capt. Chris Kelenske, deputy state Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and commander of the MSP/EMHSD in a statement.

Federal State Of Emergency Over Lead-Laced Water Ends In Flint, Mich.

By Merrit Kennedy, NPR 08/14/16 11:28 AM

The federal state of emergency in Flint, Mich. expires today, as the city continues to navigate a public health crisis caused by lead-laced water. Officials are trying to reassure Flint residents that they will still have access to free bottled water, filters and cartridges, as Michigan Radio reported. "We have heard from many residents ... that's there's a deep concern that the federal government and state are going to pack up and pull out of Flint after August 14," State Police Captain Chris Kelenske said Wednesday, according to Michigan Radio. "I'm here to tell you that that assumption is completely false. I want to be extremely clear: August 14 is just a date on the calendar."

Flint residents worry as federal government steps away from water crisis

By Kayla Ruble, VICE 08/14/16 10:35 AM

On Sunday, the city of Flint passes a milestone: the federal government, which has been administering water relief for the past eight months, is pulling out, and state and local officials will take over providing water to residents. It means that local agencies — the same ones that repeatedly told residents their lead-contaminated water was safe — will once again be in charge of distributing bottled water, filters, and testing kits to 100,000 residents that were exposed to lead when the city switched water sources from the city of Detroit to the Flint River back in the fall of 2014.

Federal emergency declaration ending Sunday

By Steve Carmody, Michigan Radio 08/13/16

The federal emergency declaration for the Flint water crisis ends Sunday. One big change will be who's paying for all the bottled water and filters being handed out to Flint residents. The feds have been picking up 75% of the cost, with the state chipping in 25%. Now the state will have to pay 100% of the costs. Capt. Chris Kelenske is the deputy state director of emergency management and homeland security for the Michigan State Police. He helps coordinate the state's response to the water crisis. Kelenske says he did push through a few big ticket purchases before the switch, including buying expensive water filters.

Flint water crisis: federal state of emergency expires, but the public health disaster is far from over

By Tim Walker, The Independent 08/12/16

On January 16, President Barack Obama declared a federal state of emergency in the Michigan city of Flint, to deal with a water crisis which saw tens of thousands of people potentially exposed to dangerous levels of lead in their public water supply. Over the seven months since, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (Fema) has reportedly provided more than 20 million litres of bottled water and some 50,000 water filters to residents of the troubled city, for which the federal government split the costs 75-25 with the state.

Politics

Top Democrat accuses Republicans of "shielding" Gov. Snyder

By Steve Carmody, Michigan Radio 08/15/16 1:00 PM

Michigan's Democratic Party leader is accusing Republicans of "shielding" Gov. Rick Snyder from accountability for the Flint water crisis. Brandon Dillon is the Michigan Democratic Party chairman. At the first of a series of news conferences today, Dillon spoke in Flint about the need to not let the governor "off the hook." "Anybody, whether they were a state employee or a political appointee right up to the governor himself, need to be held accountable," Dillon said, "And the Republican Legislature has so far has been shielding him at all costs."

Dems renew push to hold Gov. Rick Snyder accountable for Flint water crisis

By Ron Fonger, MLIVE 08/15/16 12:24 PM

Michigan Democrats kicked off a a trip across the state in Flint Monday, Aug. 15, claiming House Republicans have failed to hold Gov. Rick Snyder responsible for the Flint water crisis. "Republicans control everything in Lansing, including the Legislature ...," said Brandon Dillon,

chairman of the Michigan Democratic Party. "They should (be) calling Gov. Snyder in to testify for his role in the Flint water crisis ... (People) deserve to know what the governor knew and when he knew it."

Gov. Snyder says he's cooperating with Attorney General investigation into the Flint Water crisis

By Hank Winchester, Click on Detroit 08/12/16 5:48 PM [video clip]

The Flint water crisis continues despite news that the city's water quality is improving. Gov. Rick Snyder visited Flint on Friday, and answered tough questions about the future of the city and the continuing criminal investigation into negligence regarding the issue. Our consumer investigator Hank Winchester was the only reporter from Detroit to question Governor Snyder on various topics in connection with the Flint water crisis. Watch the video above for Snyder's responses.

Flint Crisis Probe Spending

Six months in, AG's probe of Flint crisis tops \$2M

By Chad Livengood, Detroit News 08/15/16 9:06 AM

Attorney General Bill Schuette spent more than \$2 million in the first six months of his Flint water crisis investigation on a team of attorneys, investigators and support personnel that totaled 42 people in June, according to records obtained by The Detroit News. About \$1.86 million of the expenses went to paying lawyers, retired police officers investigating the widespread contamination of Flint's water, law clerks and an unnamed expert witness, according to invoices The News obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request.

MI spends more than \$2M so far on Flint water probe

By AP for WOOD NBC TV 8 08/15/16 8:50 AM

Records say the Michigan attorney general's office has spent more than \$2 million in the first six months of its ongoing investigation into Flint's water crisis. The Detroit News, citing records obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, reports Monday nearly \$1.9 million went to paying lawyers, investigators and others. The records say the team totaled 42 people in June.

Other News & Opinions

Leaders: Recognize the brutal facts of reality and own your mistakes

By Stan Silverman, Chicago Business Journal 08/15/16 5:56 AM

Many of us have worked in or been affected by organizations in which leaders ignore the brutal facts of reality. When reality finally catches up with them, any credibility they once had is damaged, along with the trust and confidence of those who rely on their judgment. A recent example is the Flint, Michigan water crisis.

Mona Hanna-Attisha: Flint water crisis doctor on 2016 presidential race & Big Ten sports

By Chuck Stokes, WXYZ ABC 7 08/13/16 2:33 PM [video clip]

By now, practically everyone in America has heard the name Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha. Yes, she's the Flint, Michigan pediatrician who helped to expose that city's toxic water crisis. You may also recall that she's a Michigan native who was educated at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University Medical School. So, it's not surprising that she knows her medical "stuff" backwards and forward. After all, teamed up with Virginia Tech researcher Dr. Marc Edwards, they took on the Michigan health and political establishment and won!

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